

BEFORE
THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION OF
SOUTH CAROLINA

DOCKET NO. 1999-259-C - ORDER NO. 1999-454

JUNE 25, 1999

IN RE: Petition of ITC^DeltaCom Communications,) ORDER ESTABLISHING
Inc. for Arbitration of an Interconnection with) ARBITRATION PLAN
BellSouth Telecommunications Pursuant to)
the Telecommunications Act of 1996.)

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This matter comes before the Public Service Commission of South Carolina (the Commission) on a Petition for Arbitration filed by ITC^DeltaCom (DeltaCom) on June 14, 1999 involving it and BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. (BellSouth). Section 252 (b)(4)(C) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996 requires that we hear and rule on this matter no later than 9 months after the date on which the local exchange carrier received the request for negotiation. We must therefore hear and rule on this matter on or before October 4, 1999. Accordingly, we will rule on various procedural matters connected with this case in this Order, and establish an Arbitration Plan.

The Arbitration Hearing in this Docket shall begin at 10:30 AM on Wednesday, September 8, 1999 in the Commission Hearing Room.

The Commission hereby orders that twenty-five (25) copies of the testimony and exhibits of DeltaCom shall be prefiled on or before **August 11, 1999**. Further, twenty-five (25) copies of the testimony and exhibits of BellSouth shall be prefiled on or before **August 25, 1999**. In addition, the parties shall serve their prefiled testimony and exhibits on all other parties of record in this case. All parties are reminded that all witnesses must

be present during the hearing in this matter at the call of the Chairman, or the Commission may decline to allow the witnesses' testimony to be read into the record of the proceeding, and/or may decline to allow the witnesses' exhibits to be entered into the evidence of the case.

Further, DeltaCom and BellSouth, as well as any participants in this matter, may submit a non-binding list of questions to the Arbitrator (the Commission) on or before September 1, 1999.

Opening statements of the parties and any participants will be allowed at the beginning of the hearing. Closing statements of the parties and any participants will be allowed at the conclusion of the hearing.

Direct testimony and exhibits of the parties' witnesses shall be presented to the Arbitrator in a panel format, with all witnesses being sworn in concurrently. Cross-examination of the witnesses shall be conducted by the Arbitrator or its designee. Cross-examination may be directed to specific witnesses or to the entire panel. Responses to cross-examination by other parties may be allowed at the discretion of the Arbitrator.

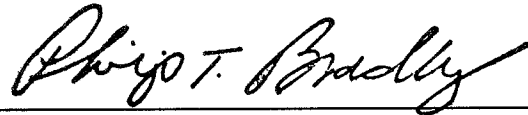
Please note that any party requesting modification of this schedule must file a request for such modification with the Commission.

JUNE 25, 1999

PAGE 3

This Order shall remain in full force and effect until further Order of the Commission.

BY ORDER OF THE COMMISSION:



Chairman

ATTEST:



Executive Director

(SEAL)